

R E M A R K S

Claims 1 and 21-41 are now pending in this patent application, claims 2-20 having been cancelled without prejudice to their reintroduction herein or in a future continuation or divisional patent application.

The specification has been amended hereinabove to correct the priority claim language. Approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite features claim 9, now cancelled, and to recite that at least one of the claimed residues comprises a tyrosine residue.

The subject matter of new claims 21-41 is supported throughout the application, including at page 6, line 28 to page 7, line 18, page 8, lines 4-8, and page 9, lines 3-21. Approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

This rejection has been rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 3. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, and 10-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Muzzarelli et al.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to insert the features of claim 9, now cancelled. Because claim 9 was not subject to this rejection, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 as

amended to include the features of claim 9 is similarly not subject to this rejection. The rejection of claims 2, 4-8, and 10-16 has been rendered moot.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

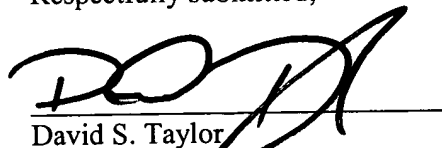
Claims 8 and 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Kubo (U.S. Patent No. 6,044,800). Claims 11 and 17-20 have been rejected as being obvious over Tanihara (U.S. Patent No. 5,658,592).

Applicant respectfully submits that the Section 103(a) rejections have been rendered moot by the cancellation of claims 8, 9, 11, and 17-20. It is also noted that Kubo does not discuss tyrosine. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

If a petition for extension or fee(s) is deemed missing or deficient, please accept this paper as a petition for extension and charge the deficiency, including any extra claim fees, to our Deposit Account 50-0548.

In view of the foregoing remarks, the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance. The Examiner is asked to consider this response and amendment and pass the application to allowance. Further and favorable consideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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